

Core brief

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive
(17 June 2022, 9am)

Colleagues may have seen Wednesday's announcement from the Scottish Government about the proposed five percent pay rise to NHS Scotland Agenda for Change staff. This will, as with all pay deals, be subject to a period of negotiation, which will be taken forward by national staff side colleagues, and we will await the outcome of these discussions.

As staff will also be aware, the number of people being treated in our hospitals for COVID has, unfortunately, risen again this week, with now over 200 people in our care with a diagnosis of less than 28 days. While this is disappointing news, and most certainly not where we would like to be at this point, I am confident that all of our staff continue to do all you can to support our patients and each other as we deal with this rise in patient numbers. I continue to remain hopeful that this period is a small and short-lived increase, which will start to decline in the near future.

Our Estates and Facilities team play a hugely significant role across NHSGGC and this week, we celebrated National Healthcare Estates and Facilities Day. This provided an opportunity for us to reflect on the important work that our colleagues carry out and the value that the work they collectively undertake brings to staff and patients alike. Everyone who plays a front of house or behind the scenes role within Estates and Facilities is essential to the backbone of NHSGGC and without you we couldn't care for our patients in the way that we do. I would like to personally thank you all for your tireless commitment and hard work, which is so vital to our health and social care services. Thank you.

Earlier this week, we welcomed Ash Regan MSP, Minister for Community Safety to the GRI, where she met with staff from our Burns and Plastic Surgery team and visited the Scottish National Burns Centre. While with us, the Minister undertook a discussion about the impending Firework and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Bill, which was launched in February this year and is concerned with legislating for tougher action on the sale and use of fireworks and the misuse of pyrotechnics in an attempt to reduce the harm that can be caused. I would like to thank our staff who supported the visit and shared their insights and experiences with the Minister, which I'm sure will help to inform any forthcoming parliamentary debates on the issue.

This week, the patient feedback I would like to highlight is about our District Nursing team in Renfrewshire. A patient has been in touch to say: "I am writing to express my gratitude for the excellent care and attention I received from the District Nurse team based at Dykebar Hospital in Paisley. I have different members of the team visiting me to change dressings following a cellulitis infection on my lower right leg. Without exception, each member of the team was very caring, took time to address any concerns I had and offered good advice and support. I found this group of health care staff to be entirely patient focused, professional, yet warm and friendly. That they are able to deliver such a first class service in these trying times is testimony to their dedication to their work and to the patients that they have in their care." Our District Nurses play a pivotal role across NHSGGC, delivering care within our local communities and more so, in thousands of patient's homes. I would like to thank the team at Dykebar as well as our wider District Nursing community for all that you do.